

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 09859 081713Z
ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 ONY-00 /004 W
-----107194 081745Z /44

P 081645Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9621

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 9859

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL

1. AMBASSADOR ASKS ABOUT STATUS OF MEMCONS ON HIS CALLS IN WASHINGTON. (WE HAVE SCHEDULES, TALKING POINTS, ETC., BUT VERY FEW MEMCONS.)
 2. SONTAG IS WILLING TO STAY YEAR (INDEED IS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT PROSPECT), BUT HAS RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM HARRY GELMAN SAYING THAT HE CANNOT BE SPARED. SINCE SONTAG SEEMS TO BE ONLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION ON HORIZON FOR POLITICAL SECTION, AMBASSADOR ASKS THAT YOU CONTACT WHITMAN TO SAY THAT HE ASSUMES THAT WHITMAN AND HIS COLLEAGUES WILL APPROACH THIS QUESTION IN THE SAME SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AS THAT WHICH HAS MARKED OUR RELATIONS HITHERTO.
 3. ALSO, AS YOU ARE DOUBTLESS AWARE, RAY SMITH'S TRANSFER TO POL DEPENDS UPON ARRIVAL OF HIS REPLACEMENT IN CONSULAR SECTION. IS MANDEL COMING OR NOT? IF NOT, IS THERE REPLACEMENT AVAILABLE AND IF SO, WHEN CAN HE/SHE ARRIVE? OUR POL STAFF IS REALLY BEING PUSHED TO THE WALL, AND WE SIMPLY MUST SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.
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4. AS SET FORTH IN MOSCOW 9799, TIMING OF REICH VISIT COULD HARDLY BE LESS PROPITIOUS. APPRECIATE ANY SUPPORT YOU CAN RENDER IN GETTING IT SHIFTED TO THE FALL.
- TOON

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